Message Text

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UNCLAS KUWAIT 3928

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: XF

SUBJECT: KUWAIT PRESS REACTION TO BEGIN VISIT TO US

1. JULY 16 AND 17 KUWAIT EDITORIAL REACTION TO ISRAELI PRI MIN BEGIN'S VISIT HIGHLIGHTS BEGIN'S STOPOVER IN NEW YORK CITY (VARIOUSLY TERMED THE "CAPITAL OF WORLD ZIONISM," "CITY OF FIVE MILLION JEWS," AND "ISRAEL'S SECOND CITY") AND CERTAIN ASSERTED DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE POSTIONS OF ISRAEL AND THE US ON MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT. REGARDING THE NEW YORK STOPOVER, TWO EDITORIALS SUGGEST THAT IT IS APLOY TO GATHER DOMESTIC AMERICAN SUPPORT BEFORE GOING ON TO WSHINGTON, BUT MOST EDITORIALS EXPRESS BOTH HOPE AND EXPECTATION THAT PRES. CARTER WILL ADHERE TO PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED USG POSITION DURING BEGIN VISIT AND THUS, THEY CONCLUDE, US-ISRAEL DIFFERENCES WILL PERSIST.

- 2. ONLY ONE EDITORIAL (AL QABAS JULY 17) QUESTIONS WHETHER THE BEGIN VISIT WILL RESULT IN CHANGES IN US POLICY. ALL OTHER EDITORIAL COMMENTARY CONCUDES THAT IT WILL NOT.
- 3. AL RAI AL AM (JULY 17) ASSERTS THAT PRES. CARTER UNCLASSIFIED

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IS THE FIRST US PRESIDENT TO TALK TO ISRAELI
LEADERS WHILE ENJOYING "A BALANCE OF ARAB CONFIDENCE
UNPRECEDENTED AND NEVER GIVEN TO HIS PREDECESSORS,"
AND THAT ARAB LEADERS CONSIDER THE PRESIDENT "THEIR
REPRESENTATIVE" IN TALKS WITH BEGIN.
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Message Attributes

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